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EXAMINER

TRAN, PHILIP B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2155

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/773,885	Applicant(s) FILLEBROWN ET AL.	
	Examiner Philip B Tran	Art Unit 2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 September 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 20-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 20-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Amendment

1. This office action is in response to the amendment filed on 09/02/2004. Claims 16-19 have been canceled. Claims 1, 8, 11-12, 15 and 21-24 have been amended. Therefore, pending claims 1-15 and 20-24 are presented for further examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 1-3, 11, 13, 21 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hiscock, U.S. Pat. No. 6,721,787.

Regarding claim 1, Hiscock teaches a personal wireless network (= wireless link (22) system) [see Fig. 1 and Col. 2, Line 60 to Col. 3, Line 12], comprising :

a wireless server (= hot-sync server (10)) [see Fig. 1 and Col. 2, Lines 60-66] capable of executing any one of a plurality of software applications and generating from such execution a plurality of data packets for transmission in the network [see Col. 3, Lines 34-43]; and

a wireless client capable of wireless communication with the wireless server in accordance with at least one wireless communication protocol, the wireless client being configured to remotely access the software applications executed by the wireless server, and to process the data packets transmitted from the wireless server and wherein the wireless server receives a data packet from the wireless client extracts data from the received data packet, and associates the extracted data with one of the software application (= one of personal digital assistance (PDA) (12) is coupled to the hot-sync server (10) by a wireless link (22) wherein the hot-sync server includes a wireless transceiver (46) for communicating with the PDA and the PDA also includes a wireless transceiver (36) for communicating with the hot-sync server and wherein software running in the server to allow exchanging packet data between the PDA and the server for establishing connection) [see Fig. 2 and Abstract and Col. 3, Lines 21-43 and Col. 4, Lines 5-60].

Regarding claim 2, Hiscock further teaches the wireless communication is implementable through a Bluetooth protocol (i.e., the PDA (12) and hot-sync server (10) communicate over a wireless link (22) using a wireless communication protocol referred to by the name "Bluetooth") [see Col. 2, Line 66 to Col. 3, Line 4].

Regarding claim 3, Hiscock further teaches the wireless communication is implementable through an IEEE 802.11 protocol (i.e., the PDA (12) and hot-sync server (10) communicate over a wireless link (22) using a standard communication protocol such as IEEE standard 802.11) [see Col. 2, Line 66 to Col. 3, Line 2].

Regarding claim 11, Hiscock further teaches a second wireless client capable of wireless communication with the wireless server, and wherein both clients are capable of simultaneously accessing the same software application being executed by the server (= one of personal digital assistance (PDA) (12) is coupled to the hot-sync server (10) by a wireless link (22) wherein the hot-sync server includes a wireless transceiver (46) for communicating with the PDA and the PDA also includes a wireless transceiver (36) for communicating with the hot-sync server and wherein software running in the server to allow exchanging packet data between the PDA and the server for establishing connection) [see Fig. 2 and Abstract and Col. 3, Lines 21-43 and Col. 4, Lines 5-60].

Regarding claim 13, Hiscock further teaches the server is in communication with a Local Area Network (i.e., the hot-sync server is connected to the LAN) [see Col. 3, Lines 7-20].

Claims 21 and 23 are rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5. Claims 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiscock, U.S. Pat. No. 6,721,787 in view of Haartsen, U.S. Pat. No. 6,590,928.

Regarding claim 4, Hiscock does not explicitly teach the wireless communication is implementable at approximately 2.4 GHz. However, Hiscock does suggest the implementation of suitable wireless protocol for communication between server (hot-sync server (10)) and client (the PDA (12) over a wireless link (22) using a standard IEEE 802.11 protocol or a wireless communication protocol such as Bluetooth [see Col. 2, Line 66 to Col. 3, Line 4].

Haartsen, in the same field of wireless communication network endeavor, discloses wireless local area network (WLAN) using a standard IEEE 802.11 protocol

wherein the system is operated in the 2.4 GHz band [see Haartsen, Col. 1, Line 40 to Col. 2, Line 40]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the use of a standard IEEE 802.11 protocol wherein the system is operated in the 2.4 GHz band, disclosed by Haartsen, into the system of wireless communication network disclosed by Hiscock, in order to provide a short-range and low-cost wireless communication link for use between devices within a rather small local area such as in-home network.

Regarding claim 5, Hiscock does not explicitly teach the wireless communication is implementable at approximately 5.2 GHz. However, Hiscock does suggest the implementation of suitable wireless protocol for communication between server (hot-sync server (10)) and client (the PDA (12) over a wireless link (22) using a standard IEEE 802.11 protocol or a wireless communication protocol such as Bluetooth [see Col. 2, Line 66 to Col. 3, Line 4].

Haartsen, in the same field of wireless communication network endeavor, discloses High Performance Radio Local Area Network (HIPERLAN) using a standard IEEE 802.11 protocol wherein the system is operated in the 5.2 GHz band [see Haartsen, Col. 13, Lines 14-38]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the use of a standard IEEE 802.11 protocol wherein the system is operated in the 5.2 GHz band, disclosed by Haartsen, into the system of wireless communication network disclosed by Hiscock, in

order to provide a short-range and low-cost wireless communication link for use between devices within a rather small local area such as in-home network.

6. Claims 6-7 and 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiscock, U.S. Pat. No. 6,721,787 in view of Treyz et al (Hereafter, Treyz), U.S. Pat. No. 6,678,215.

Regarding claim 6, Hiscock does not explicitly teach the wireless communication is implementable through a HomeRF protocol. However, Hiscock does suggest the implementation of suitable wireless protocol for communication between the hot-sync server (10) and PDA (12) [see Hiscock, Col. 2, Line 60 to Col. 3, Line 4].

Treyz, in the same field of wireless communication network endeavor, discloses in-home wireless network using wireless protocol such as a HomeRF protocol [see Treyz, Fig. 2 and Col. 9, Line 66 to Col. 10, Line 24 and Col. 10, Line 48 to Col. 11, Line 12]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the use of HomeRF protocol, disclosed by Treyz, into the system of wireless communication network disclosed by Hiscock, in order to provide a short-range and low-cost wireless communication link for use between devices within a rather small local area such as in-home network [see Treyz, Col. 10, Lines 20-24 and Col. 11, Lines 1-12].

Regarding claim 7, Hiscock does not explicitly teach the wireless communication is implemented through a plurality of wireless protocols. However, Hiscock does

suggest the implementation of suitable wireless protocol for communication between the hot-sync server (10) and PDA (12) [see Hiscock, Col. 2, Line 60 to Col. 3, Line 4].

Treyz, in the same field of wireless network communication endeavor, discloses in-home wireless network using a variety of wireless protocols [see Treyz, Fig. 2 and Col. 9, Line 66 to Col. 10, Line 24 and Col. 10, Line 48 to Col. 11, Line 12]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the use of a variety of wireless protocols, disclosed by Treyz, into the system of wireless communication network disclosed by Hiscock, in order to provide a short-range and low-cost wireless communication link for use between devices within a rather small local area such as in-home network [see Treyz, Col. 10, Lines 20-24 and Col. 11, Lines 1-12].

Regarding claim 14, Hiscock does not explicitly teach the server is an Internet-enabled device. However, Hiscock does suggest the implementation of suitable wireless protocol for communication between the hot-sync server (10) and PDA (12) [see Hiscock, Col. 2, Line 60 to Col. 3, Line 4]. In addition, Hiscock further suggests the hot-sync server (10) may connect directly to the LAN or through other devices such as routers (not shown) [see Hiscock, Col. 3, Lines 7-9].

Treyz, in the same field of wireless network communication endeavor, discloses in-home wireless network using a variety of wireless protocols [see Treyz, Fig. 2 and Col. 9, Line 66 to Col. 10, Line 24 and Col. 10, Line 48 to Col. 11, Line 12]. In addition, Treyz further discloses residential gateway (45) acting as a server in communication

with wireless client devices (12) and extending connection to the Internet via cable modem or DSL link for downloading data. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to implement the server as an Internet-enabled device, disclosed by Treyz, into the system of wireless communication network disclosed by Hiscock, in order to enable the server extending data access to other networks as part of WAN for periodically obtaining data over the Internet in a relatively easy manner [see Treyz, Col. 11, Lines 1-22].

Regarding claim 15, Hiscock does not explicitly teach the server is a personal computer (PC). However, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to implement a personal computer as a server for communication with another computer or device as a client in the network.

7. Claims 8, 22 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiscock, U.S. Pat. No. 6,721,787 in view of Jones et al (Hereafter, Jones), U.S. Pat. No. 6,108,314.

Regarding claim 8, Hiscock does not explicitly teach a wireless router being wirelessly coupled between the server and the client via a wireless protocol. However, Hiscock does suggest one of personal digital assistance (PDA) (12) is coupled to the hot-sync server (10) by a wireless link (22) wherein the hot-sync server includes a wireless transceiver (46) for communicating with the PDA and the PDA also includes a wireless transceiver (36) for communicating with the hot-sync server [see Hiscock, Fig.

2 and Abstract and Col. 3, Lines 21-43]. In addition, Hiscock further suggests the hot-sync server (10) may connect to the LAN through other devices such as routers (not shown) [see Hiscock, Col. 3, Lines 7-9].

Jones, in the same field of wireless communication network endeavor, discloses the implementation of wireless router between devices such as subscriber devices and servers in the wireless network [see Jones, Fig. 1 and Col. 2, Line 40 to Col. 3, Line 3]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the use of a wireless router, disclosed by Jones, into the system of wireless communication network disclosed by Hiscock, in order to perform routing protocols and handle transmission of different types of data [see Jones, Col. 3, Line 62 to Col. 4, Line 21]. Thus, various types of data can be efficiently transferred from one device to another in a wireless communication environment.

Claims 22 and 24 are rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 8.

8. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiscock, U.S. Pat. No. 6,721,787 in view of Callaway, Jr. (Hereafter, Callaway), U.S. Pat. No. 6,711,380.

Regarding claim 9, Hiscock does not explicitly teach the client is a wireless smart client. However, Hiscock does suggest one of personal digital assistance (PDA) (12) is coupled to the hot-sync server (10) by a wireless link (22) wherein the hot-sync server

includes a wireless transceiver (46) for communicating with the PDA and the PDA also includes a wireless transceiver (36) for communicating with the hot-sync server [see Hiscock, Fig. 2 and Abstract and Col. 3, Lines 21-43].

Callaway, in the same field of wireless communication network endeavor, discloses the implementation of a home wireless network connecting intelligent appliances [see Callaway, Col. 1, Lines 14-45]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the use of wireless smart client (= intelligent appliance), disclosed by Callaway, into the system of wireless communication network disclosed by Hiscock, in order to create a "master-slave" environment in the wireless LAN for the piconet master (= one of controller device (11), (13), (15)) wirelessly controlling and managing all complex operations and program, such that the smart appliance (= slave microwave oven (10)) does little more than acts on very specific commands issued by the master device (for example, turns itself on and off) [see Callaway, Col. 3, Line 13 to Col. 4, Line 5]. Thus, this enables to establish an autonomous local area distributed network like "smart appliances" home network in a configuration that requires only low cost, low bandwidth communication techniques and only an occasional connection to a remote server or a master controller.

9. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiscock, U.S. Pat. No. 6,721,787 in view of McClard et al (Hereafter, McClard), "Unleashed : Web Tablet Integration into the Home", ACM, April 2000.

Regarding claim 10, Hiscock does not explicitly teach the client is a wireless tablet. However, Hiscock does suggest the implementation of clients as PDAs (12) [see Hiscock, Fig. 1 and Col. 2, Line 60 to Col. 3, Line 12].

McClard, in the same field of wireless communication network endeavor, discloses the implementation of client as a wireless tablet [see McClard, Page 1, Left column, third paragraph and Page 1, Right column, second & third paragraphs]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the use of a client as a wireless tablet, disclosed by McClard, into the system of wireless communication network disclosed by Hiscock, in order to improve the portability aspect by allowing the user to be unchained and mobilized within a small local area such as in-home network [see McClard, Table 1 on Page 2].

10. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiscock, U.S. Pat. No. 6,721,787 in view of Nevo et al (Hereafter, Nevo), U.S. Pat. No. 6,600,726.

Regarding claim 12, Hiscock does not explicitly teach the client is capable of wireless communication using a first wireless protocol and the second client is capable of wireless communication using a second wireless protocol. However, Hiscock does suggest the implementation of suitable wireless protocol for communication between hot-sync server (10) and PDA (12) [see Hiscock, Col. 2, Line 60 to col. 3, Line 4].

Nevo, in the same field of wireless communication network endeavor, discloses one client or device is capable of operation using a first wireless protocol (= wireless

network protocol A) and the second client or device is capable of operation using a second wireless protocol (= wireless network protocol B) [see Nevo, Fig. 1 and Col. 3, Lines 30-45 and Col. 4, Lines 36-59]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the implementation of different devices capable of operation using different wireless protocols, disclosed by Nevo, into the system of wireless communication network disclosed by Hiscock, in order to enable a device handling concurrent wireless communication with multiple partners of different wireless communication protocols in a very efficient and low cost manner [see Nevo, Col. 1, Lines 58-60].

11. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiscock, U.S. Pat. No. 6,721,787 in view of Thompson et al (Hereafter, Thompson), U.S. Pat. No. 6,484,011.

Regarding claim 20, Hiscock does not explicitly teach the wireless client is capable of reading a magnetic strip. However, Hiscock does suggest one of personal digital assistance (PDA) (12) is coupled to the hot-sync server (10) by a wireless link (22) wherein the hot-sync server includes a wireless transceiver (46) for communicating with the PDA and the PDA also includes a wireless transceiver (36) for communicating with the hot-sync server [see Hiscock, Fig. 2 and Abstract and Col. 3, Lines 21-43].

Thompson, in the same field of wireless communication network endeavor, discloses the implementation of a wireless device having means for reading a magnetic stripe [see Thompson, Col. 10, Lines 19-21]. It would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the use of wireless device capable of reading a magnetic stripe, disclosed by Thompson, into the system of wireless communication network disclosed by Hiscock, in order to enhance the process of identification in an efficient manner by allowing a quick retrieval of coded information from the magnetic stripe using a portable and wireless device.

Response to Arguments

12. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive because of the following reasons:

Hiscock teaches a personal wireless network such as wireless link (22) system [see Fig. 1 and Col. 2, Line 60 to Col. 3, Line 12], comprising a wireless server capable of executing any one of a plurality of software applications and generating from such execution a plurality of data packets for transmission in the network. For example, Hiscock discloses a hot-sync server (10) with software running on it for communication with the PDA [see Fig. 1 and Col. 2, Lines 60-66 and Col. 3, Lines 34-43].

In addition, Hiscock further teaches a wireless client capable of wireless communication with the wireless server in accordance with at least one wireless communication protocol, the wireless client being configured to remotely access the software applications executed by the wireless server, and to process the data packets transmitted from the wireless server and wherein the wireless server receives a data packet from the wireless client extracts data from the received data packet, and associates the extracted data with one of the software application. For example,

Hiscock discloses one of personal digital assistance (PDA) (12) is coupled to the hot-sync server (10) by a wireless link (22) wherein the hot-sync server includes a wireless transceiver (46) for communicating with the PDA and the PDA also includes a wireless transceiver (36) for communicating with the hot-sync server and wherein software running in the server to allow exchanging packet data between the PDA and the server for establishing connection [see Fig. 2 and Abstract and Col. 3, Lines 21-43 and Col. 4, Lines 5-60].

As a result, cited prior art does disclose a system and method as broadly claimed by the applicant. Applicant has still failed to identify specific claimed limitations that would define a clearly patentable distinction over prior arts. Therefore, the examiner asserts that cited prior art teaches or suggests the subject matter recited in independent claims. Dependent claims are also rejected at least by virtue of dependency on independent claims and by other reasons shown above. Accordingly, claims 1-15 and 20-24 are respectfully rejected.

Conclusion

13. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CAR 1.136(a).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST REPLY IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE

DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 CAR 1.136(A) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT, HOWEVER, WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-3991. The Group fax phone number is (703) 872-9306.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain T. Alam, can be reached on (571) 272-3978.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Philip Tran
Philip Tran
Art Unit 2155
Jan 21, 2005

Bharat Barot
BHARAT BAROT
PRIMARY EXAMINER